SQUIRE OF WASHINGTON

(Continued from Page 13)

Ruth, is a nurses' aide at Bellevue Hospital in New York.

Mrs. Meyer, a Barnard graduate, worked on the old New York World briefly, prior to her marriage. The former Agnes Elizabeth Ernst, a noted beauty, she possesses an energy that matches her husband's. Brünnehilde with a typewriter, one of her friends once described her.

Last fall she flew to England and from there wrote a series of articles on how the average English family had adjusted themselves to the terrors of blitz and the hardships of total war.

This spring Mrs. Meyer made a strenuous tour covering war-production centers throughout the country. The articles which she wrote for her husband's newspaper gave a sympathetic picture of the human problems growing out of the war boom.

A woman of strong likes and dislikes, one of her chief enthusiasms is for the work of Thomas Mann, the German novelist. Whenever a new Mann work appears, Mrs. Meyer reviews it at generous length in the columns of the Post, and she has translated some of his shorter things into English. When Doctor and Mrs. Mann are in Washington, they customarily stop with the Meyers.

Of a shy, retiring nature, the novelist sometimes appears a little overwhelmed at the tide of energy that surges through the house.

Outspoken American

No. 1 on Mrs. Meyer's list of dislikes is probably Eleanor Roosevelt. As women sometimes do, she takes her politics straight, with an intense partisanship, and for her the symbol of all things Democratic and objectionable is the peripatetic First Lady.

Mrs. Meyer can, and often does, rival her husband. On her trip to England, she spent a week end at Cliveden with her old friend, Lady Astor, who expressed concern over the press England had been getting in America and suggested it might be well if she, herself, ran over to give a few lectures and set things right.

"I don't think that would be such a good idea, Nancy, dear," Mrs. Meyer said.

Drawing-Room Secrets

The Meyer town house on Crescent Place in Washington, not far from a colony of embassies and legations on Sixteenth Street, has sometimes been mistaken by the uninitiated for the Library of Congress. Here during the past two years the Post's publisher has held a number of off-the-record sessions with leading figures in the war administration, inviting correspondents of out-of-town papers, together with members of the Post's staff, to hear the man of the evening.

Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles, at a luncheon in Meyer's office, spoke of the importance of giving American newspapermen background on foreign policy, but added that it was difficult or impossible in ordinary press conferences because of the presence of representatives of Axis newspapers. Meyer promptly volunteered to arrange special conferences in his drawing room.

Officials who come are, of course, Meyer's personal guests, as are the newspapermen, and the rule of secrecy has been scrupulously observed. Not merely foreign policy but the whole course of the war has been expounded by those directly responsible for it in the big handsome room with its Cézannes and Picassos.

Donald Nelson as chairman of the War Production Board was guest star at least

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